Application/Control Number: 09/867,174

Art Unit: \*\*\*

claims pto.

12/29/06

L.Ellis

Page 2

## Application/Control Number: 09/867,174 Art Unit: \*\*\*



 A method for selecting a fulfillment plan by nowing an item within a supply chain, congressing:

receiving an order for an item;

constructing a list of Aternative fulfillment plans for moving the non-within the emply disting

evaluating the reconnected alternative fulfillment plans against a predetermined criteria; and

reflecting for employmentation the constructed alternative (altifulnent plan that most elastly mosts the predetermined enteria, the selected alternative (altifulnent plan being used to position the tien for time menting the order.

- 2 The method as revited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using a customer specified tested of service when constructing the list of alternative fulfillment plans.
- The method is recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using brasel and bound techniques to determine condidate sourcing points for the item when consciousing the list of alternative fulfillment plans.
- The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using a customer specified point of delivery when construcing the list of alternative fulfillment plans.
- 5. The method as crossed in classe 1, further exceptising the step of using a concenter specified delivery date when constituting the first of alternative failfultment plans.
- The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using various
   condensations of sourcing points within the supply chain when constructing the list of alternative fulfillment plans.
  - 7 The method as registed in claim 1, further compassing the step of using enstancer specified consolidation requirements when constructing the list of alternative fulfillment atom.
  - The method as recited in relian 1, further compensing the step of using activity costs when construcing the list of alternative fulfillment plans.
- 13 9. The method as recited in claim 1, further composing the step of using inventory age
  when constructing the list of alternative list fillness plans.
  - 10. The method as received in chira 1, finither comprising the step of using a customer specified grave quote when evaluating the constrained alternative fulfillment plans against a precision model on tria.
     20. a precision feed contria.

## Application/Control Number: 09/867,174 Art Unit: \*\*\*

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media having instructions precedeble be a computer for use in selecting a fulfillment plan for moving an item within a supply chain distributed over a pterative of prographic lectures, the instructions performing steps comprising: tectiving an order for an item;

to response to recesp of the order for the item constructing a plumlity of alternative fulfillment plans for moving the item from a souncing point to this or some cathof the plurality of prographic locations within the supply of air;

evaluating each of the constructed plurably of alternative fulfillment plura against a producement of criteria; and

selecting for implementation one of the constructed plurality of alternative fulfillment plus that most closely meets the predetermined effects, the relocted constitute plurality of alternative fulfillment plurality of a geographic locations within the supply chain thereby traking the item available for use in meeting the order.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer rendable media as revited in claim 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using a customer specified level of service when constructing the phaselity of alternative fidfillment plans.

(Previously Presented) The computer readable modes as recited in claim 18, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using branch and bound techniques to determine candidate sourcing points for the item when constructing the pharality of alternative fulfillment plans.

- i4. (Previously Presented) The computer readable media as excited in claim 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using a customer specified point of delivery when constructing the plantity of alternative fulfillment plans.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The computer resultable media as recited in claim 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using a customer specified delivery date when recontracting the plurality of alternative fulfillment plura.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The competer readable modila as resited in chim 11, wherein the instructions clauser perform the step of using various combinations of societing points within the supply chain when constructing the plurality of alternative fittillation plans.
- 17 (Previously Presented) The computer readable modificus recited in cisin 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using costomer specified consolidation requirements when egocineting the plantiley of alternative felfillment plans.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The computer readable media as recited in claim 11, wherein the fratructions further perform the step of using activity rosts when constructing the plantity of alternative fulfillment plans.



Application/Control Number: 09/867,174
Art Unit: \*\*\*

19. (Previously Presented) The computer scalable undia as recited in claim 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using inventory age when constructing the plurality of alternative fielilimora plans.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable media as recited in claim 11, wherein the instructions further perform the step of using a customer speculied price quote when evaluating the constructed plansity of alternative fulfillment plans.